smuggled into Bangladesh' which appeared in the Pioneer (N.D.) dated the 24th July, 1997;

(b) if so, what are the details of the states taken/contemplated by Government to tide over the menace.

(c) what has been the achievement in each case; and

(d) who are the persons suspected to be conniving with smugglers to facilitate such illegal movement of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Government are aware that some illegal trade in commodities like salt, sugar, rice and clothes take place in the Indo-Bangladesh border areas.

(b) A number of measures including reduction of gaps between Border Out Posts, intensification and increase in Patrols, erection of Observation Post Towers, use of night vision devices, construction of border roads and fences along sensitive stretches have been taken to check smuggling.

(c) The seizures of essential commodities made by the Border Security Force deployed on Indo-Bangladesh border during the last three years are as follows:

Item	1995	1996	1997 (upto 30 June)
Salt (Kg)	1245838	1699625	1126571
Sugar (Kg)	855447	1567774	867472
Rice (Kg)	2000548	783102	99503
Cloth (worth rupees)	35129536	30524120	18956963

(d) There are reports of alleged involvement of wholesale dealers for Public Distribution System in border districts and owners of sweetmeat shops in the border areas, who are reportedly getting excess allotment of flour and sugar. There have been complaints of general nature against the Border Security Force personnel also. A close watch is kept on the BSF personnel to ensure that they maintain a high standard of rectitude and integrity.

सरकारी कामकाज में हिन्दी का प्रयोग

2391. **श्री नागमणि :** क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 14 सितम्बर, 1996 को दिए गए गृह मंत्री के उस वक्तव्य की ओर दिलाया गया है जिसमें उन्होंने कहा था कि वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों को अपना दैनिक काम-काज हिन्दी में करना चाहिए और अन्य अधिकारियों को भी इसके लिए प्रोत्साहित करना चाहिए; और

(ख) क्या वे अपने विभाग के वरिष्ठ और अन्य अधिकारियों को इनका अनुपालन करने के निर्देश देंगे और क्या हमारी स्वतंत्रता के स्वर्ण जयंती वर्ष में इसकी निगरानी की जाएगी ?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद मकबूल डार) : (क) हिन्दी दिवस 1996 के अपने संदेश में गृह मंत्री ने इस आशय का विशेष अनुरोध किया था ।

(ख) क्योंकि नीतिगत रूप में सरकार की राजभाषा नीति का कार्यान्वयन प्रेरणा और प्रोत्साहन से किया जाता है, अतः इस विषय पर निर्देश इत्यादि जारी करना उपयुक्त नहीं होगा।

Child Prostitution in Andhra Pradesh

2392. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been reported in all leading dailies of country that child prostitution is rampant in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the facts of these reports;

(c) whether Government propose to take some strict measures to check this social evil damaging the name of country at International Scene; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Available information on crime against children relating to prostitution in Andhra Pradesh during the years 1994-96 is given here below:—

Year	Procuration of minor girls	Selling of girls for prostitution	Buying of girls fo prostitution
1994	2	8	0
1995	6	0	2
1996 (Prov.) . . .	3	0	0

(c) and (d) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per List II-State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. As such, registration, investigation, detection as well as prevention of crime is the responsibility of the State Governments. It is essentially for the respective State Governments to take such preventive and punitive steps as are necessary to check the crimes against children. However, the Central Government from time to time, sends advisories to State Governments, apart from providing financial assistance to them to strengthen their policing infrastructure.

Shortage of Manpower with Delhi Police

2393. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been reported in important dailies of city that Delhi Police is short of 7,000 policemen;

(b) if so, the facts of these reports;

(c) whether with provision of manpower as in (a) Delhi will be free of crimes in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons for additional policemen taxing the exchequer heavily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Delhi Police have reported that 1103 posts of Constables and 465 posts of Sub-Inspectors are lying vacant at present for which recruitment process is in the advanced stage of completion.

(c) and (d) The removal of the existing shortage of manpower is expected to help Delhi Police to handle law and order problems more effectively.